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Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018-2028

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/193 of 22 December 1992 on the observance of World Day for Water, 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003

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the International Year of Freshwater, 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, 61/192 of 20 December 2006, by which it proclaimed 2008 the International Year of Sanitation, 65/154 of 20 December 2010, by which it proclaimed 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation, and 67/204 of 21 December 2012 on the implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013,

Recalling also its resolutions 64/198 of 21 December 2009 on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and 69/215 of 19 December 2014, by which it requested a comprehensive review of progress achieved in the implementation of the Decade and that steps continue to be taken towards achieving the internationally agreed water-related goals,

Recalling further its resolution 68/157 of 18 December 2013 on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, and the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council, including resolutions 24/18 of 27 September 2013[1] and 27/7 of 25 September 2014,[2]

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

Recalling its resolutions 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goals and targets related to water resources, particularly those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and determined to achieve the goal of ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all,

Reaffirming also that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[3] is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that the full implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is critical for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger and that it is indispensable for human development, health and well-being and central to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant internationally agreed goals in the social, economic and environmental fields,

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[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[2] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. IV.

[3] Resolution 69/313, annex.

Deeply concerned that lack of access to a safe drinking water source, basic sanitation and sound hygiene, inequalities in access, water-related disasters and water scarcity will be further exacerbated by urbanization, population growth, desertification, drought and climate change, as well as by the lack of capacity to ensure sustainable management and governance of water resources,

Concerned that many water ecosystems are threatened by poor management, unsustainable development, increased uncertainty and risks due to climate change and other factors,

Acknowledging the importance of deepening cooperation and partnership at all levels for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation, particularly those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Guided by the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[4] which highlighted the commitment to the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015,

Recognizing that Sustainable Development Goal 6 and its targets remain largely uncovered by the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council agendas,

Noting national, regional and global efforts and partnership initiatives to implement the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and numerous recommendations from global and regional water and water-related events, with a view to taking concrete action towards achieving the internationally agreed water-related goals and targets contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting also the establishment of the High-level Panel on Water by the Secretary-General and the President of the World Bank, and looking forward to its contribution to the implementation of the goals and targets on water and sanitation,

Having considered the *United Nations World Water Development Report*, a joint project of United Nations agencies and entities, particularly the edition entitled *Water for a Sustainable World*, the report of the 2015 UN-Water International Zaragoza Conference, on the theme "Water and sustainable development: from vision to action", the UN-Water advice on means of implementation of the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and the report of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation,

Noting the outcomes and the Ministerial Declaration of the seventh World Water Forum, held in Daegu and Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea, from 12 to 17 April 2015,

Noting also the outcomes of the high-level interactive dialogue at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, held on 30 March 2015, the Declaration of the High-level International Conference on the Implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, held in Dushanbe on 9 and 10 June 2015,[5] and the call for action of the high-level symposium on the theme

[4] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[5] See A/C.2/70/5, annex.

"Sustainable Development Goal 6 and targets: ensuring that no one is left behind in access to water and sanitation", held in Dushanbe on 9 and 10 August 2016,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources;[6]

2. *Welcomes* the activities related to water undertaken by Member States, the United Nations Secretariat and organizations of the United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups, for the observance of the International Year of Sanitation, 2008, the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013, and the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015;

3. *Proclaims* the period from 2018 to 2028 the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", to commence on World Water Day, 22 March 2018, and terminate on World Water Day, 22 March 2028;

4. *Decides* that the objectives of the Decade should be a greater focus on the sustainable development and integrated management of water resources at all levels and on the implementation and promotion of related programmes and projects, as well as on the furtherance of cooperation and partnership at all levels in order to help to achieve internationally agreed water-related development goals and targets, particularly those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[7]

5. *Also decides* that these objectives should be pursued, inter alia, by improving knowledge generation and dissemination, facilitating access to knowledge and exchange on good practices, generating new information relevant to the water-related Sustainable Development Goals, pursuing advocacy, networking and promoting partnership and action by different actors to implement the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets in coordination with existing initiatives, as well as strengthening communication actions at different levels for the implementation of the water-related Sustainable Development Goals;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the participation and full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including women, children, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, in the implementation of the Decade at all levels;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps to plan and organize the activities of the Decade at the global, regional and country levels, taking into account the outcomes of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and other relevant United Nations structures;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for further steps to accelerate and sustain action towards the mobilization of financial resources, the transfer of environmentally sound technology on mutually agreed terms and capacity-building in the

[6] A/71/260.
[7] Resolution 70/1.

management and governance of water resources at the local, national and regional levels;

9. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to promote the mobilization of financial resources and technical assistance and to strengthen the effectiveness and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

10. *Encourages* the development, dissemination, diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable and mutually agreed terms and the stepping up of international cooperation and collaboration in science, research, technology and innovation, including through public-private and multi-stakeholder partnerships;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to manage the coordination of activities for the Decade, utilizing existing resources at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and voluntary funds, so as to complement the role of the High-level Panel on Water and of UN-Water;

12. *Decides* to review the implementation of the Decade on a quadrennial basis in alignment with the review cycle of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report every four years, linked to the relevant review sessions of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, on the activities carried out for the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018-2028, contributing to the progress reports on the Sustainable Development Goals;

14. *Calls upon* Member States, the relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant partners, including the private sector, to contribute to the International Decade for Action, "Water and Sustainable Development", 2018-2028, and to deliver a coordinated response, building on the momentum gained during the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.